

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 HA-05 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /092 W
-----008616 280244Z /63

R 280121Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2235
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9065

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF TH LA
SUBJECT: REPORT OF SRV BATTLE CASUALTIES FROM PHU BIA AREA

FOL MSG RECD ACTION BANGKOK INFO VIENTIANE DTD 240800Z AND
BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

C O N F I D E N T I A L UDORN 0077

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF TH LA
SUBJECT: REPORT OF SRV BATTLE CASUALTIES FROM PHU BIA AREA

REF: UDORN 0076

1. DURING VISIT TO SRI CHIANG MAI DISTRICT, NOVIG KHAI
PROVINCE MARCH 22, CONREP INTERVIEWED DR SANG PONG PHAT,
AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST ASSIGNED TO LPDR'S 103RD ARMY HOSPITAL
(FORMERLY SISAVONG VONG HOSPITAL) IN VIENTIANE, WHO
HAD CROSSED MEKONG INTO DISTRICT EARLIER THAT DAY.
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2. DR SANG STATED THAT HIS MEDICAL COLLEAGUES AT HOSPITAL
TOLD HIM THAT DURING WEEK OF MARCH 12 NUMBER OF WOUNDED
SRV TROOPS REQUIRING EMERGENCY TREATMENT AT HOSPITAL
INCREASED SHARPLY.

3. DR SANG SAID THAT HE PON-))6 5REATED DURING

THIS PERIOD ONE VIETNAMESE SOLDIER WITH AN EYE WOUND WHO CLAIMED HE HAD RECEIVED WOUND DURING OPERATIONS AGAINST HMONG IN PHU BIA AREA. SOLDIER SAID THAT THESE OPERATIONS ARE STILL UNDERWAY AND HAVE OBJECTIVE OF ELIMINATING ANY REMAINING ORGANIZED HMONG RESISTANCE.

4. DR SANG MAINTAINED THAT AFTER SRV TROOPERS RECEIVED INITIAL TREATMENT FOR BATTLE WOUNDS AT 103RD ARMY HOSPITAL, THEY WERE EVACUATED TO HANOI FOR RECUPERATION.

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS FROM OTHER REFUGEE DOCTORS FROM TIME TO TIME REGARDING REPORTED ADMISSION OF SRV BATTLE CASUALTIES TO HOSPITALS IN VIENTIANE. IT IS DIFFICULT TO CONFIRM SUCH REPORTS. GIVEN LOWLAND LAO REFUGEES STRONG DISTASTE FOR VIETNAMESE AND THEIR TENDENCY TO EXAGGERATE VISIBLE VIET PRESENCE IN VIENTIANE, WE VIEW SUCH REPORTS WITH CAUTION.
FINNEY UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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